



Lead Information Sheet

August 2012

- When drinking water leaves Louisville Water Company's treatment plants, it does not contain lead.
- Louisville Water is in compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards for lead in drinking water, which includes testing water at the customer's tap as part of the Lead and Copper Rule.
- Lead is found throughout the environment and is most often found in lead-based paint, contaminated soil, certain types of pottery and porcelain, and air pollution.
- Lead can enter drinking water primarily through plumbing materials. Since some service lines and home plumbing, in the past, were made of or contained lead, some of that lead may dissolve into the water. Homes and buildings built before 1938 may contain lead pipes. Also, plumbing joined by lead solder may pose a health risk.
- Louisville Water treats the water to make it less corrosive. Proper adjustment of pH, alkalinity and hardness create very stable water and can reduce lead leaching from plumbing materials.
- Louisville Water partners with the Metro Department of Public Health and will conduct testing upon request. We also have a partnership with public and private schools in Jefferson, Oldham and Bullitt Counties to monitor school drinking water fountains. The School Lead Monitoring Program includes sampling water fountains and then analysis by Louisville Water scientists. If a fountain exceeds the action level for lead, Louisville Water provides guidance to school officials on replacement.